

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,598

Examiner

Natalia Figueroa

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL.

Art Unit

2651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to filing (01/27/2004).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 01/27/2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 27 January 2004 (01/27/2004) is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

2. The drawings received on 16 November 2004 (11/16/2004). These drawings are accepted by the examiner and are placed on record.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-28 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

RE claim1, the prior art of record, and in particular Sato et al (US Pub. No. 2004/0218299), fails to teach or suggest a system comprising a plurality of writing heads that are arranged in writing head groups, each writing head group including at least one of the writing heads, the writing head groups being associated with the top and bottom sides of the magnetic disks such that each writing head group has access to a respective one of the sides; and at least one rotary positioner each integrally holding at least one reading head and at least some the groups of writing heads in a pivotable stack, the at least one rotary positioner being disposed adjacent the periphery of the stack of magnetic disks so that at least a plurality of the writing head groups can gain access to the same side of each of the magnetic disks for writing, wherein the writing head groups on the same side of the magnetic disks carry out writing onto said same side in parallel with other writing head groups on said same side of the magnetic disks within

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respective assigned track ranges, the writing being carried out in response to the magnetic data read out by at least one reading head and modified magnetic data prepared on the basis of the magnetic data.

RE claim 8, the prior art of record, and in particular Sato et al (US Pub. No. 2004/0218299), fails to teach or suggest a system comprising at least one rotary positioner integrally holding the at least one reading head and the groups of writing heads in a pivotable stack, the at least one rotary positioner being turntable so that each of the reading heads and at least one of the writing heads are positioned on a common plane that substantially includes the axis of the shaft of the spindle motor, and being disposed adjacent the periphery of the stacked magnetic disks so that at least a plurality of the writing heads are presented to gain access to the same side of each of the magnetic disks; and wherein each of the writing heads carries out writing of the finally written magnetic data, each being produced for the writing head itself, onto the side of the magnetic disk receiving the writing, corresponding to the writing head, in parallel with other writing side heads on the same side of the magnetic disks, with its own track range for writing being assigned.

RE claim 19, the prior art of record, and in particular Sato et al (US Pub. No. 2004/0218299), fails to teach or suggest a system comprising a plurality of rotary positioners each integrally holding the reading head and the writing heads in a pivotable stack, stack of magnetic disks, and being disposed at the periphery of the wherein the writing heads correspond to the reading head are mounted on the rotary positioners to carry out writing of one of the magnetic data and magnetic data prepared on the basis of the magnetic data, read out by the reading head, onto the magnetic disks, the writing being carried out in parallel with other writing

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heads on the same side of the magnetic disks within a track range for writing that is assigned to each of the writing heads.

RE claim 22, the prior art of record, and in particular Sato et al (US Pub. No. 2004/0218299), fails to teach or suggest a system comprising a plurality of rotary positioners each integrally holding one of the read-only heads and some of the servo heads in a stack, the rotary positioners being disposed adjacent the periphery of the stack of magnetic disks; wherein each of the servo heads in each of the rotary positioners, with a track range for writing being assigned to the servo head, is made to carry out, in parallel with other servo heads, writing of one of the correct servo information and the correct modified servo information in the track range assigned to the servo head on each side of the magnetic disk corresponding to the servo head by keeping a correct track space between an adjacent track range.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following documents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to writing magnetic data.

a) Baker et al (USPN 6,704,156): Discloses writing of servo patterns in a disk drive.

b) Yamazaki et al (US Pub. No. 2003/0137765): Discloses an information recording and reproducing system.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Natalia Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-7554.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R. Hudspeth can be reached on (571) 272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


NFM


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